

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

News Release

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HAWAII DEPUTY SHERIFFS INVESTIGATING AIRPORT COLLISION

HONOLULU—Hawaii Deputy Sheriffs are investigating a collision between a Hawaiian Airlines Boeing 717 and a luggage cart or tug on an airport taxiway this afternoon.

A Hawaiian Boeing 717 was taxing toward the gate around 1:30 when it hit the tug. Sheriff Deputies say that the Hawaiian Air plane had clearance from the tower to approach the gate in the outbound lane because an Aloha Air jet was in the inbound taxi-lane waiting for a gate to open. The luggage cart was waved ahead and was crossing through the outbound lane when it hit the Hawaiian Air jet.

The luggage carrier tipped over and caught fire injuring the driver who has been identified as Jung Lee. He was taken to the Queen's Medical Center by a City and County ambulance where he was treated and released

Airport Patrol Deputy Sheriffs were on the scene in seconds to help the injured tug driver and secure the area for the investigation.

No one on the plane was injured and they were all taken back to the gate in Wikiwiki buses.

A runway was closed this afternoon as the investigation progressed.

For more information contact: Mike Gaede Department of Public Safety 587-1254